

independent. Claims 1, 3-8, 12, and 14-16 are amended, claims 2, 9-11, 13, and 17 are canceled, and new claim 18 is added. Care has been exercised to avoid the introduction of new matter. A Version With Markings To Show Changes Made to the amended claims is included herewith.

Claim Amendments:

Claims 1, 3-8, 12, and 14-16 are amended herein. Claims 1, 3, and 4 are amended to remove "step-plus-function"-type language. Claims 1, 3-8, 12, and 14-16 are amended to correct informalities. Support for the amendments to claims 1 and 12 may be found in the Specification at Figure 7 and the related discussion.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b):

Watanabe discusses an IC memory card that has a plurality of data areas in which data is stored and management areas in which management information is stored for management of recording the data into the data areas (Watanabe, col. 3, lines 56-59). The management area includes an identification area that stores an occupation code indicative of recording of the data in the data area and a recording code indicative of an abnormal recording of the data in the data area (Watanabe, col. 4, lines 13-18). Management information, which corresponds to data that is extracted on the basis of the occupation code and the recording code, is stored in the management area, while the extracted data is stored in the data area (Watanabe, col. 4, lines 24-28). The management area includes a header area in which header information indicating an occupation state of the data area is stored, a data identification area in which data identification indicating a format in which read or write of data is stored, and a data allocation information area in which data allocation information indicating a continuity state between the data is stored (Watanabe, col. 4, lines 59-64). A management information reader reads out the management information that is stored in the management area, a management information updater updates the management information read out by the management information reader, and a data recorder writes the data into the IC memory card (Watanabe, col. 4, lines 41-46).

In contrast, claim 1 of the subject application (as amended herein) recites "performing management so that an application of the plurality of applications corresponding to a directory of the predetermined directories is selected in accordance with an item of the items of identification

information given to a directory of the predetermined directories, when the directory of the predetermined directories is selected, wherein an address of the application is the item of the items of identification information, wherein the application is needed when a file is executed.”

Claim 12 of the subject application (as amended herein) recites “wherein items of identification information are given to predetermined directories of the directory structure, respectively, the items of identification information being used for identifying the plurality of applications, respectively, the plurality of applications corresponding to the predetermined directories of the directory structure, wherein addresses of the plurality of applications are the items of identification information, wherein one of the plurality of applications is needed when a file is executed.”

Watanabe does not disclose or suggest the same. Specifically, Watanabe, in the sections cited by the Examiner does not disclose or suggest selecting an application by giving the address of the application to the directory of a file associated with the application. In fact, Watanabe does not disclose or suggest using the address of any applications to do anything, in the sections cited by the Examiner. Watanabe, in the sections cited by the Examiner, only discusses storing data and management information pertaining to the data on an IC memory card. Therefore, claims 1 and 12 of the subject application (as amended herein) are patentably distinguishable over Watanabe.

Dependent claims 3-8 and 14-16 are allowable based in part on their dependency, directly or indirectly, from one of claims 1 and 12.

New Claim 18:

New claim 18 is added herein. Support for new claim 18 may be found in the Specification at page 10, lines 10-13, page 11, lines 35-37, page 12, lines 2-7, page 14, lines 32-35, page 15, lines 13-26, page 16, lines 11-15, and at Figure 7.

The Applicant respectfully submits that new claim 18 is patentably distinguishable over Watanabe because Watanabe does not disclose or suggest “receiving a selection of one of the plurality of files; and executing one of the plurality of applications, which corresponds to the one of the plurality of files, based on one of a corresponding plurality of starting addresses that are stored in the file structure,” as recited in new claim 18.


Withdrawal of the foregoing rejections is respectfully requested.

There being no further objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, which action is courteously requested. Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters. If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please CANCEL claims 2, 9-11, 13, and 17.

Please AMEND claims 1, 3-8, 12, and 14-16. The remaining claims are reprinted, as a convenience to the Examiner, as they presently stand before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

1. (ONCE AMENDED) An application managing method for a case where a plurality of applications are stored, comprising [the steps of]:

forming a directory structure corresponding to [said] the plurality of applications;
giving items of identification information to predetermined directories of [said] the directory structure, respectively, [said] the items of identification information being used for identifying [said] the plurality of applications, respectively, [said] the plurality of applications corresponding to [said] the predetermined directories, respectively; and

performing management so that an application of [said] the plurality of applications corresponding to a directory of [said] the predetermined directories is selected in accordance with an item of [said] the items of identification information given to [said] a directory of [said] the predetermined directories, when [said] the directory of [said] the predetermined directories is selected,

wherein an address of the application is the item of the items of identification information,
wherein the application is needed when a file is executed.

2. (CANCELED)

3. (ONCE AMENDED) The application managing method, according to claim 1, further comprising [the steps of]:

preparing an application management table storing [said] the items of identification information and starting addresses of [said] the plurality of applications [which] that correspond to [said] the items of identification information, respectively; and

referring to [said] the application management table when a directory of [said] the predetermined directories is selected, so as to recognize a starting address of an application of

[said] the plurality of applications, [said] the starting address corresponding to an item of [said] the identification information given to [said] the directory of [said] the predetermined directories, and to access [said] the application of [said] the plurality of applications.

4. (ONCE AMENDED) The application managing method, according to claim 1, further comprising [the steps of]:

storing size information at a starting address of each application of [said] the plurality of applications, [said] the size information indicating a size of [said] the application of [said] the plurality of applications; and

repeating detection of the size of an application of [said] the plurality of applications from the size information stored in the starting address of [said] the application of [said] the plurality of applications, and search for a starting address of a next application of [said] the plurality of applications in accordance with [said] the size of the preceding application of [said] the plurality of applications, so as to obtain the starting address of a desired application of [said] the plurality of applications.

5. (ONCE AMENDED) The application managing method, according to claim 1, wherein an item of [said] the items of identification information is given to the highest directory of [said] the directory structure.

6. (ONCE AMENDED) The application managing method, according to claim 1, wherein an item of [said] the items of identification information is given to each directory of [said] the directory structure.

7. (ONCE AMENDED) The application managing method, according to claim 1, wherein, when an application of [said] the plurality of applications is substantially deleted, an item of [said] the items of identification information for [said] the application of [said] the plurality of applications is caused to be ineffective.

8. (ONCE AMENDED) The application managing method, according to claim 1, wherein[:] when an application of [said] the plurality of applications is updated, an application obtained from updating [said] the application of [said] the plurality of applications is added to [said] the plurality of applications[:], and

wherein an item of [said] the items of identification information for identifying [said] the application of [said] the plurality of applications is changed to an item of identification information for identifying [said] the application obtained from updating [said] the application of [said] the plurality of applications.

9-11. (CANCELED)

12. (ONCE AMENDED) An information processing apparatus, storing a plurality of applications, comprising:

a directory structure corresponding to [said] the plurality of applications,

wherein items of identification information are given to predetermined directories of [said] the directory structure, respectively, [said] the items of identification information being used for identifying [said] the plurality of applications, respectively, [said] the plurality of applications corresponding to [said] the predetermined directories of [said] the directory structure,

wherein addresses of the plurality of applications are the items of identification information, wherein one of the plurality of applications is needed when a file is executed.

13. (CANCELED)

14. (ONCE AMENDED) The information processing apparatus according to claim 12, further comprising:

an application management table [which] that stores [said] the items of identification information and starting addresses of [said] the plurality of applications, the plurality of applications corresponding [which correspond] to [said] the items of identification information, respectively.

15. (ONCE AMENDED) The information processing apparatus, according to claim 12, wherein an item of [said] the items of identification information is given to the highest directory of [said] the directory structure.

16. (ONCE AMENDED) The information processing apparatus, according to claim 12, wherein an item of [said] the items of identification information is given to each directory of [said] the directory structure.

17. (CANCELED)

Please ADD the following new claims:

18. (NEW) A method, comprising:
building a file structure on an IC (integrated circuit) card, wherein each of a plurality of files in the file structure corresponds to one of a plurality of applications that are stored on the IC card;
receiving a selection of one of the plurality of files; and
executing one of the plurality of applications, which corresponds to the one of the plurality of files, based on one of a corresponding plurality of starting addresses that are stored in the file structure.